The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

VOL. 5, NO. 27. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1915. WHOLE NO. 235.

STATE FIGURES REFUTE ANTI-UNIONISTS' CLAIM

St. Paul, Minn., Oct. 2.—According to the report of the state commissioner of labor, out of a total of 550 employment certificates issued last year to children under 16 years, only 33 were issued to engage as apprentices to learn a trade.

As the vast majority of shops, factories and mills in this state have no contractural relations with organized labor, trade unionists are pointing to the report as an answer to the claim of antiunionists that boys are debarred from industry because of the unions.

The report also shows that the remaining permits were divided as follows: Eighty-four to boys and girls as factory workers, 76 running errands, 72 in office work, 47 as retail clerks, 40 in delivering and teaming, 86 as cash boys or girls and 34 as messengers.

The department stores claimed 95, retail mercantile establishments 70, printing 50 and wholesale establishments 38. Telegraph offices employed 37 as messengers. The railroads and other public utilities employed 35, domestic service 18, machine shops 12, real estate 11, banks 6 and the balance was distributed in 74 different industries.

Seven employment certificates were illegally issued. It is also claimed that certificates issued for "poverty" and "good of the child" are illegally issued. Under the law the certificate can only be legally issued to children under 16 who have passed the eighth grade of school. Of this class there were 397 issued. Putting it in another way then 153 permits were legally issued by superintendents of schools in Minnesota.

The attorney general recently advised the commissioner of labor that any school certificate illegally issued would not protect employers under the compensation law in case of injury to the child. Since that time it is claimed school authorities of St. Paul and Minneapolis have refused to grant certificates except to eighth grade graduates.

LANGUAGE TEST EASIER.

Washington, Oct. 2.—Secretary of Commerce Redfield has defined the language test of the seamen's act, passed by the last congress. In an opinion made public last week the secretary states that the law does not require "the use of any particular language on the part of officers and crew of any vessel," but that "any language which is understood in sufficient measure by officers and the proper proportion of the crew will comply."

The requirement that members of the crew shall be able to understand any order given them by their officers is construed as "meaning only such orders as may normally be given to members of the crew in each department of the vessel in the course of the usual performance of their regular duties. Among those duties, however, should be included lifeboat work or emergency work for such members of the crew as may be called upon to perform these classes of work."

In conclusion, Secretary Redfield says the language test is understood to require the safeguarding of a vessel "in such a manner as shall be helpful and not hurtful to our maritime commerce, and that it is in no sense intended to be used to create embarrassment or to cause unnecessary expense or delay."

LOW WAGES BLAMED.

Los Angeles, Cal., Oct. 2.—Wearied at the tales of misery, Judge Charles Monroe, who has presided over the divorce court for several years, asked the other judges of the superior court to relieve him. He has sat in nearly 10,000 divorce cases while on the bench, and in his letter to his colleagues, said:

"One of the worst features is that it is so impossible to provide for women with large families of children out of the wages of the husband. And there is so much distress coming under my observation that I feel I would very much like to make a change."

DYE WORKERS ENJOINED.

Chicago, Oct. 2.—Judge Jesse Baldwin has issued a temporary injunction against members of the Dye House Workers' union, officers of the Teamsters' union and A. F. of L. Organizer Flood, together with their "attorneys, solicitors, agents and servants."

All these are ordered to desist from announcing that the dye house of Joseph Kaufman is unfair to organized labor, and the unionists are debarred from inducing patrons to refrain from patronizing this place, or in any manner interfering with its business.

A motion to make the order permanent will be heard October 18.

STREET CAR STRIKE SETTLED.

Columbia, S. C., Oct. 2.—The strike of union street car men in this city has been settled and the men have returned to work. It was charged that inspectors used their power to discharge in an arbitrary manner. The agreement gives the general manager alone power to discharge but his decision can be appealed, both sides to appoint representatives, they to select an umpire, if necessary.

DEMANDS ARE GRANTED.

Holyoke, Mass., Oct. 2.—Machinists employed by B. F. Perkins & Son have won their strike, the company agreeing to reinstate all workers without discrimination. A 50-hour week is promised, as is time and one-half for overtime and double time for Sunday.

OVERALL FACTORIES UNIONIZED.

Toronto, Canada, Oct. 2.—Fred Bush, organizer of the Garment Workers, reports that he was successful in signing up eight overall factories in Winnipeg, every factory in the city, employing 450 men and women. A slight increase in wages was also secure.

FAVORITISM CAUSES STRIKE.

Princeton, Ind., Oct. 2.—Because two blacksmiths were discharged to make room for favorites of the company, 700 miners employed by the Deep Vein Coal company are on strike. An arbitration board failed to adjust the matter.

APPOINT CONCILIATOR.

Washington, Oct. 2.—Secretary of Labor Wilson has appointed John A. Moffett a commissioner of conciliation in the strike at the Brown & Sharpe plant here. Several thousand employes are attempting to enforce a demand for shorter hours.

"NO STRIKE IS EVER LOST"

Denver, Oct. 2.—In his report to the state federation of labor convention, President McLennan made these optimistic references to the recent strike of Colorado coal miners:

"The astounding manner in which it has opened the eyes of the general public to the ordinary injustices and abuses with which the worker is beset has made it worth while and laid the foundation for future dividends for labor, and it can be set down as a hard and fast rule that 'no strike was ever lost.' Behind all the expense, the suffering and the hardship are the hidden gains, which will only be realized and appreciated in the future. Each strike will have its effect on subsequent strikes. It must have a tremendous effect on each subsequent occasion when labor confronts capital with a bill of industrial rights.

"As an instance of the effects of the strike on the coal operators of Colorado, the Colorado Fuel and Iron company, in a burst of repentance and with a desire to play to public applause, asked its nonunion men in the various camps in southern Colorado to meet, discuss any grievances they might have, select their committeemen, and have their wrongs, real or fancied, brought to the attention of the company. There is no record of their having been so kind, so indulgent, so paternalistic prior to the strike. The nonunion men came together in several of the southern camps, they formulated demands very similar to those which the union had asked in the first place. They asked for a 10 per cent increase in wages, and also something that the union had never asked for, the discharge of several harsh and tyrannical pit bosses. It was what these men had learned from the union and its fight that made them ask for those things. They had learned the things which the union had demanded. They had compared their own unhappy state with what it would be if they were union men enjoying all the fruits of successful unionism, and being given a chance, they asked for these things. They did not get them until backed by the strength of organization."

BLAME CITY FOR DISASTER.

New York, Oct. 2.—The death of seven persons and the injury of nearly 100 others, because of a cave-in on subway work, is due entirely "to the greed, avariciousness and criminal carelessness of contractors and city officials alike," declares the Central Federated Union in a resolution presented by Secretary Bohm and indorsed by the trade unionists.

The workers declare "that the city officials and the contractors are responsible for this slaughter of human lives and the maiming of the many people, and the officials' retrenchment and false policy of economy to be primarily the root of this evil; the public service commission decided against our contention and in favor of cheap labor at various hearings where we proposed to protect the interests of the public."

The following opinion is expressed on the proposed investigation: "We expect long-drawn-out investigations, the juggling of responsibility from one to another, with the result nil, as in former like cases, too numerous to mention."

AGAINST CONVICTS IN MINES.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Oct. 2.—The state board of affairs has announced that coal mines on the penitentiary lands shall be worked by convicts. Officers of the state federation of labor have entered a protest against this proposed action on the ground that it is a violation of the state laws. The unionists call attention to this law passed by the state's first legislature: "In no event shall convicts in this state ever be employed in any coal or mineral mines of this state other than stone or such other material as will be necessary for the construction and maintenance of the public highways or public works of the state."

In a letter to the federation officials, President Hanraty of district No. 21, United Mine Workers' union, says:

"The mines of Oklahoma are the most dangerous in the world. More miners are killed and maimed in our mines than anywhere else. Now, when that horrible condition threatens practical miners, what will be the condition of the poor, unfortunate convicts who are compelled to work in the mines, and who know nothing about mining."

FIRST AWARDS MADE.

Indianapolis, Oct. 2.—The first settlement under the new state workmen's compensation law was made when the widow of Lawrence F. Buchanan, who died from injuries received in an automobile factory, was awarded a judgment of $2,755, to be paid at the rate of $8.85 a week for 300 weeks. An additional $100 for funeral expenses was also allowed.

The first personal injury case to be settled under the law was the claim of a worker employed in the factory of the Studebaker corporation at South Bend. He was awarded $552.05 for the loss of three fingers, the amount to be paid in 75 weekly payments.

COURT WON'T INTERFERE.

Chicago, Oct. 2.—Because of irregularities, Business Agent Nels Risgaard was ousted from the Flat Janitors' union. He was granted an injunction against officers of the union debarring them from taking his name off the ballot to be used in the election of officers. Officers of the union convinced Judge Sullivan of the Superior court that the election was legal and the writ was dissolved the next day.

MAYOR RINN DEFEATED.

Allentown, Pa., Oct. 2.—Mayor Rinn, of this city, a candidate for sheriff at the last primaries, was reminded that trade unionists have not forgotten his denial of free speech several months ago. While a court rescinded the order the workers strengthened this opinion by defeating the would-be sheriff.

AGAINST 30-DAYS' NOTICE.

Denver, Oct. 2.—The Colorado state federation of labor is opposed to that section of the recently-enacted industrial act which requires employes to give thirty days' notice of a demand for change in working conditions. The convention instructed its legislative committee to work for its repeal.

MORE GAINS AT BRIDGEPORT.

Bridgeport, Conn., Oct. 2.—Employes of the Star Shirt company, members of the United Garment Workers' union, have secured the eight-hour day, increased wages and recognition of the shop committee. A. F. of L. Organizers Roach and Mary Scully assisted in the negotiations.

PRESIDENT WILSON IS URGED TO RECOGNIZE GENERAL CARRANZA

A. F. of L. Executive Council Plead Cause of Mexican Patriot

Washington, Oct. 2.—Under instructions of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor, which met last week in this city, President Gompers has written a letter to President Wilson in which the latter is urged to recognize General Carranza as the head of the Mexican government.

President Gompers' letter is as follows:

"In accord with the direction of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor, the following is respectfully submitted to you and which, we hope, will commend itself to your favorable consideration and action.

"There has been going on just across our southern boundary a battle which is part of the world-old struggle for freedom. Although that struggle may be associated with many things that are not in accord with our ideals, yet I am sure you recognize that these things are the first crude efforts of a people long accustomed to despotism and denial of the rights of free citizens to realize ideals of freedom. Nations, as well as individuals, as you well know, cannot at once assume wisdom in the exercise of freedom. They must learn to be free. They have the right to this freedom without unwarranted outside interference even from those who seek their welfare.

"The revolt of the people under the leadership of Madero against the Diaz government was an effort to realize ideals. The support given to the ideals of Madero was a proof that national virility and resourcefulness had not been crushed out by the rule of despotism. It was a proof that there were yet ideals and yearnings for the opportunities that rightfully belonged to citizens under a free government.

"Under the Madero government there were beginnings of a labor movement and an effort of the workers to organize for the realization of their ideals and for the betterment of themselves and their fellow workers. This hope was overshadowed by the barbarism of Huerta, but again grew strong and steady when Carranza asserted himself as the leader of the people.

"General Carranza is recognized as the friend of the working people and the real leader of the people generally in Mexico. He has granted to the wage earners the right of organization and has secured them opportunities for carrying out the legitimate purposes of organization. He has been thoroughly in sympathy with the ideals of greater opportunity and freedom of the masses of the people. The working people have been supporting him. They have adjourned as lodges and trade unions to enlist in the Carranza army with their union officials serving as the officers of their regiments.

"The workers of Mexico have tried as best they could with the resources available to present their request and their right to be allowed to work out their own problems. They asked you and our government for a little more patience and a little more time to prove that the Carranza government really represented the people of Mexico. You granted that request and time has proved that General Carranza is really the representative of Mexican democracy—that he represents their efforts to establish a government of the people and for the people. General Carranza has demonstrated his sympathy with the ideals for which Madero gave his life, and has refused to compromise these ideals with Mexican revolutionists who were seeking their own personal interests. He has endeavored to secure for the Mexican republic the dignity and respect that ought to be accorded to any sovereign government.

"The sympathies of the workers of the United States have been very deeply touched by the struggles of our fellow workers of Mexico. As recent events have drawn all of the countries of the two American continents more closely together, so the workers of these various countries have been more thoroughly aroused to the common interests and the common welfare of the wage-earners who are citizens of the countries.

"It is with the desire that we Americans who have so much liberty and so much of opportunity should use our influence to aid those who are less fortunate, that as representatives of the labor movement of America we urge upon you recognition of General Carranza as the head of the Mexican government.

"The matter, we know, is receiving your most earnest and more conscientious consideration, and we are sure that your sympathies are very strong for any genuine effort to secure the larger liberty for the people, therefore we wish you to have the assurance that the course we, as the representatives of the organized labor movement of America urge upon you, has, we feel sure, the hearty approval and endorsement of the great rank and file of the citizenship of our country."

CLAIMS OF JOHN D. DENIED

Denver, Oct. 2.—A committee appointed by the executive board of the United Mine Workers' union challenges the claim of John D. Rockefeller, jr., that his Colorado companies make no distinction between union and nonunion miners.

In a public statement the unionists take issue with Mr. Rockefeller's claim that the Colorado Fuel and Iron company "does not care whether its employes are union men or nonunion men."

The committee says:

"Since the strike was called off last December this company (Colorado Fuel and Iron) has steadfastly refused to re-employ men who were still affiliated with the union, and we defy Mr. Rockefeller to produce from his entire working force in southern Colorado a dozen men who are members of the union."

The statement says the "miners' representatives" with whom Rockefeller has conversed in the coal camps do not represent the union (United Mine Workers of America), but an organization "created by the head officials of the company and afterward foisted upon the miners."

The statement says that despite Mr. Rockefeller's recent announcement "eight or nine hundred members of our organization" have been refused employment by the company, while others have been "discharged on some flimsy, trumped-up pretext," and that "the elements that led to the revolt of miners in southern Colorado still obtain."

CITIES ON 8-HOUR BASIS.

Columbus, Ohio, Oct. 2.—Thousands of municipal employes in Ohio will work only eight hours a day because of an official ruling by Attorney General Turner, which includes:

"Persons employed in cleaning streets, as well as those engaged in their construction or repair, and persons engaged in the construction or repair of municipal power, heat, light and water plants, wharves, docks, waterways and sewers, or engaged in the construction or operation of any public undertaking of a structural nature of substantial permanence, capable of being regarded as of public utility, service and interest."

OPPOSE LIABILITY FIRMS.

Cincinnati, Oct. 2.—The executive committee of the state federation of labor has voted to oppose the order of State Insurance Commissioner Taggart, which permits private liability insurance companies to write workmen's compensation policies. These concerns have been attempting to weaken the law ever since its passage, and the recent order by the insurance commissioner reverses the policy of a former administration.

The unionists have resolved to employ counsel and ask the state supreme court to rule on the legality of the commissioner's order.

KIER HARDIE HAS PASSED AWAY

Glasgow, Scotland, Oct. 2.—James Kier Hardie, the well-known British trade unionist, died in this city last week of pneumonia. Deceased was born in Scotland in 1856 and worked in the mines until he was 24. He was chairman of the independent labor party from 1893 until 1900 and led the labor party in the house of commons from 1906 until 1908. In 1912 he visited the United States.

"GOOD OLD TIMES" A MYTH

Chicago, Oct. 2.—The Union Leader, official magazine of the Chicago street car men's unions, shatters illusions of the "good old days" as follows:

"In the 'good old days' we had no union. We had no rights, no freedom. Our wage was low and our hours of labor long. We carried tool boxes, headlights, redlights, brooms, lamp cleaners and transfer stamps. We were assessed for breakage or damage through accidents and discharged if we refused to pay it. We lost our seniority on a 'miss' and when this cruel rule was abandoned the emergency list took its place. On the emergency list we had to report at 4:30 in the morning, no matter what time we got in the night before, and had to hold the bench all day, our only chance for work being a 'snipe,' due to trainmen being too sick to continue or pulled off their runs for some trivial offense. If we missed on the emergency list the penalty was increased, and invariably a half dozen 'misses' was a criminal offense and brought discharge. We were laid off, fired, sweated and probably reinstated, just as the spirit moved any petty official.

"We were herded for political purposes and sent out to obtain right-of-way consent of property holders. We were putty in the hands of the bosses and they fashioned us at will to suit their purpose. They kept us divided on all matters but company business. They fed and nourished the deepest prejudices. They engendered hate and bitterness. They kept the driver at the throat of the conductor and vice versa. They had one employe reporting the other. Spotters in the ranks were as thick as soldiers in Europe. Many of them in their cups made open boast of receiving the second pay envelope for spotting service. The company was kept well informed on their employes' actions. To breathe discontent meant sure discharge.

"These were the 'good old days' before the Amalgamated liberated us from tyrannical conditions. They were the days when brute rule dominated in the traction business and reason was an unknown element in the treatment of employes."

WAITRESSES' PAY LOW.

Jersey City, N. J., Oct. 2.—In her appeal for assistance to organize waitresses in this city, Mrs. Bonner of New York told delegates to the Central Labor union that conditions under which waitresses work are abominable. She said $5 a week was about the limit in wages, many getting less.

CHILD LABOR AT FORT WAYNE.

Fort Wayne, Ind., Oct. 2.—A special committee appointed by the federation of labor has reported that 930 children under the age of 14 years are employed in the mills and factories of this city.

SHIPBUILDERS ORGANIZE.

Wilmington, Del., Oct. 2.—The Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America have organized a local in this city and applied for a charter.

CANADIAN LAW IS CRITICISED

Toronto, Ontario, Oct. 2.—Criticism of the proposed amendments to the Lemieux act, known as the industrial disputes investigation act, was made by delegates to the District Labor Council. The law was passed in 1907 and applies only to public utilities and mining, except where both parties agree to invoke it. In either case a board is appointed by the government and both employer and employe is obliged to give at least thirty days' notice of intended change in wages or hours of employment. Neither side can enforce a strike or lockout during this period. The act was intended to encourage amicable settlements by conciliation and arbitration. Canadian unionists have expressed dissatisfaction with the law and many claim that employers use the thirty days' "grace" to prepare for strikes.

The proposed amendments, its authors insist, will remove a number of objections to the law, but unionists in this city hold different opinions. One section provides that if any worker orders, declares, counsels, incites, encourages or aids "in any manner" employes to go or continue on "an unlawful strike," they shall be fined not less than $50 nor more than $1,000—if they are employes of the establishment. If they are not employes the fine is doubled and they are liable to imprisonment "for any period not exceeding six months."

TEACH CHILDREN TO PLAY.

Lafayette, Ind., Oct. 2.—The Labor News of this city favors teaching children how to play and how to develop the body and mind, instead of continually dwelling on the benefits of labor. Editor Cunningham says:

"This business of making work a fetich, a sort of an impending doom, like death for instance, or taxes, ought not be so overworked. From the time that the average child is able to understand language he or she is told of the bright future ahead, when 'grown up' estate shall have been reached. Nothing is said of the reward for the work, nothing mentioned of the necessity for play, for development of both body and mind."

GIRLS IMPROVE CONDITIONS.

Chicago, Oct. 2.—Because of discrimination against the union, seventy girls employed by the Steinberg & Sopkin company struck. The firm then agreed to give preference to members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union, to reduce hours from 55 1-2 to 50 per week and to grant a 10 per cent wage increase to girls receiving less than $8.50 per week. The firm also agreed to accept the principle of arbitration in the event of future disputes.

STRIKE OF 2,000 ENDS.

Bridgeport, Conn., Oct. 2.—A 48-hour week and substantial wage increases have been granted 2,000 employes of the American Graphophone company, who have been on strike about three weeks.

EASTERN STRIKE SETTLED.

Seymour, Conn., Oct. 2.—The strike of 600 employes of the Seymour Manufacturing company has been settled. Hours have been reduced without wage reductions.

COLORADO EDITOR SAYS MINERS ARE STILL IN ROCKEFELLER'S POWER

Trinidad, Col., Oct. 2.—Editor O'Neill of the Trinidad Free Press warns trade unionists and sympathizers that even though the state supreme court has debarred Judge Hillyer from presiding at future trials of miners, the law evidently gives this jurist the power to nominate the presiding judge.

The paper says:

"Many of the laboring people throughout the country have been indulging in jubilation since the supreme court of the state of Colorado handed down its decision removing Judge Hillyer from the strike cases in the coal fields of southern Colorado. While the decision of the supreme court of Colorado is appreciated by the members of the labor movement from ocean to ocean, yet men who have a comprehensive grasp of the situation will indulge in no hurrahs over a decision which has merely said that Judge Hillyer shall not sit in the trials of strikers.

"To the mind of the man who is not swept off his feet by his emotions, the strike cases are about in the same position as when Judge Hillyer was specially appointed to preside in the hearing of these cases.

"In other words, the big fight in the courts, to vindicate strikers who are charged with crime, is yet an issue, and confronts not only the United Mine Workers, but the whole labor movement of this country.

"Under the law, Judge Hillyer seems to be clothed with authority to select the judge who will preside in his place, and it is only reasonable to presume that a judge who has been disqualified by the order of a higher court, will feel no thrill of fraternity toward the forces that brought about a decision which questioned his competency to preside. To have a clear grasp of the situation, it must be understood that all the machinery of a state administration is in the hands of the prosecution, and furthermore, it must be understood that practically all the functions of a state government are arrayed against the miners who rebelled against their economic masters."

In the same issue, the Trinidad Free Press submits the following questions to Governor Carlson:

"First—Is it not true, Mr. Carlson, that after you became governor, the coal companies were dissatisfied with the fairness of Judge Burke of Sterling, and Judge Butler of Denver, who presided in some of the strike cases, and that they fostered a law to create a new judgeship in this district, with the object in view of getting an individual that they could call 'their judge?'

"Second—Did you not know that the judge you had the power to appoint was to try the strike cases?

"Third—You did not appoint as judge one of the attorneys who was in the employment of the United Mine Workers. Why? Because that would have been unfair, not alone to the allied coal companies, but to the public. Then was it just that you appoint Judge Hillyer, who had openly denounced the miners, and who was one of the attorneys for the coal companies, especially hired to prosecute these miners whom he had denounced? You might call that law and order, but you cannot call it justice, either to the miners or to the public. This action on your part is a matter that strikes at the very foundation of our government; it is a matter of public concern that we have impartial judges who sit in judgment on their fellow men, or tyranny and anarchy will follow."

EASTLAND WAS MISMANAGED

Chicago, Oct. 2.—"The Eastland tipped over because of improper ballast and improper management. There is no mystery about the accident, which simply shows up the typical American careless and irresponsible methods, also the typical American disregard of technical analysis and reliance on the motto on the silver dollar, 'In God we trust.'"

The above statements were made by Andrew Allen, a mining engineer, in an address before the Engineers' club last week. The speaker was also a member of the state grand jury. He ridiculed the theory that piling in the river caused the ship to turn over and cause the death of 812 excursionists last July. He declared that "the piling would have sunk into the mud or dented the bottom."

The mining engineer said the boat should not have been permitted to carry more than 1,700 or 1,800 persons, if nine square feet for each passenger was allowed. This rule was ignored and the boat was allowed to carry 2,500.

"There were 2,412 tickets turned in by the Transportation company," said the speaker. "Out of 500 tickets examined we found 152 coupons held by passengers who were not on the Eastland, for which there were no tickets turned in. This would suggest that many tickets had been destroyed, and that there must have been 25 to 30 per cent more passengers on the boat than reported.

"On the morning of the accident the ballast tanks were pumped dry. When the boat listed to starboard they started to fill the port tanks. When it began to list to port, they began to pump out the port tanks instead of filling the starboard tanks, too; in fact, this was attempted only at the last moment. The ballast tanks were, therefore, only partially filled and the water could surge with every movement of the boat. The instability was doubtless increased instead of decreased thereby. The single ballast tank system is very defective and when the boat began to get away from the crew they had no means of righting it.

"There is no mystery about the accident. It is a thing that might have happened, and almost did happen many times before. It is a thing that is bound to happen sooner or later in a boat operated as was the Eastland."

UNION OPPONENTS CHECKED.

Chicago, Oct. 2.—"Hands off the Teachers' federation" is the command of Judge O'Connor to the Chicago board of education.

The board recently passed an order calling on all teachers to withdraw from the federation and now the court restrains the board from enforcing its rule. As matters stand at present the teachers' organization is in the same position it was before the board called on teachers to sign a pledge that they do not belong to the federation.

In his decision Judge O'Connor quoted the state supreme court in its rule that it was illegal for a public corporation to decide that only union workmen could be employed on school building construction. On the same theory, declared Judge O'Connor, the school board has no right to rule that only nonunion teachers can be employed. Such a policy, said the court, is an arbitrary classification that has no connection with the public welfare. The court also held that the board's rule would break a contract with the teachers which was entered into last June when the teachers were hired.

MINERS APPLAUD WALSH.

Indianapolis, Ind., Oct. 2.—The international executive board of the United Mine Workers of America has passed resolutions eulogizing Frank Walsh, late chairman of the commission on industrial relations, for "performing the functions of this important office in such a manner as to reveal in clear and comprehensive form the causes of industrial unrest in America."

Attention is called to the vicious attacks by "certain subsidized newspapers which are unwilling to grasp his fearless exposure of the un-American policies pursued by many of the country's greatest capitalists and have circulated countless false statements concerning this splendid and uncorruptible champion of the working people."

The miners also commend President Wilson "for selecting a man of his high type and character to officiate as chairman of this important commission."

WILL DETECT TUBERCULOSIS.

Philadelphia, Oct. 2.—Within ten years medical science will probably have succeeded in all but eliminating death from tuberculosis from vital statistics, is the prediction of Dr. Jefferson D. Gibson, president of the American Association of Clinical Research, in an address in this city. He said that recent discoveries by which the presence of tuberculous tendencies can be detected even before the germs appear in the sputum, together with a later and higher development of the X-ray, will in a short time remove tuberculosis from the list of necessarily fatal diseases.

FAVOR EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

New Bedford, Mass., Oct. 2.—The convention of the state federation of labor indorsed a state wide campaign for the establishment of an eight-hour day throughout Massachusetts.

Resolutions were adopted favoring the abolition of the state poll tax system and plans were favored to secure petitions for a noncontributory system of old age pensions. The federation's legislative committee was instructed to urge the passage of the steam fitters' license law.

Joseph J. Hunt of Boston was elected president and Springfield was chosen as the next convention city.

STUDENTS FIGHT FOR NEARING.

Philadelphia, Oct. 2.—At a meeting of University of Pennsylvania students a committee was appointed to attend the next meeting of the university's board of trustees and discuss the dismissal of Prof. Nearing, assistant professor of economics at the Wharton school. The meeting was secret, but the students later announced that they intended to ask the school officials for the reason for Prof. Nearing's discharge.

OPPOSE CONSCRIPTION.

Vancouver, British Columbia, Oct. 2.—Unanimous opposition to conscription was the decision of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress. The convention called on Dominion workers to give aid to the cause of the British empire in the present war, but the theory of conscription was assailed by speakers who declared this denial of constitutional freedom and opposition to the interests of labor must be opposed.

COAL AND METAL MINING ARE SEPARATE CALLINGS

Indianapolis, Oct. 2.—"The product of the metal miner in nowise enters into competition with that of the coal miner," is one of the reasons why a committee appointed by the United Mine Workers' union does not favor amalgamation with the Western Federation of Miners.

Attention is called to the interchange of cards and other exhibitions of fraternity between the two organizations, and it is stated that the present status of affairs has never debarred the two unions from "working together in the interest of their common welfare."

The committee points out that the work of the two unions—from a practical standpoint—is entirely different, and that an amalgamation would weaken both in their respective attempts to organize the coal miners and the metal miners. It is stated that:

"The immutable law of self-preservation dictates that, we throw all of our resources into the work of organizing these non-union coal miners, whose product is taking the markets of union-mined coal."

In referring to the differences between the two industries, the report says:

"We point to the fact that while the metal miner, like the coal miner, is called upon to brave the dangers of a common calling underground, that the product of the metal miner in nowise enters into competition with that of the coal miner; in fact, his relationship to the coal mining industry is not so near, nor so important in time of industrial strife, as is that of the men employed in the transportation industry, nor is his relation to us from a competitive standpoint so important as is that of the men employed in the production and marketing of oil and gas, and in the plants and waterpower sites used to generate electrical power. We cite the foregoing in order to make plain that coal mining and metal mining are industries separate and distinct so far as the competitive relationship of their product is concerned."

"EDUCATING" JOHN D., JR.

Chicago, Oct. 2.—In a desire to impress upon the public John D. Rockefeller, jr.'s desire to become acquainted with conditions in Colorado, some correspondents have been forced to emphasize the dangers to workingmen.

In a special dispatch, last Saturday, from Pueblo to the Chicago Tribune, Charles N. Wheeler says:

"John D. Rockefeller, jr., got a taste of what his several thousand employes have to endure every day in the plant of the Colorado Fuel & Iron company.

"Mr. Rockefeller displayed again a large and steady nerve during the exciting trip. A dozen times this afternoon a misstep might have meant his death. Many times he had to jump out of the way of the large traveling cranes and two-ton ingots of red hot steel. At other times Mr. Rockefeller heard the shout of 'low bridge' just in time to escape getting a wallop on the head.

"He climbed steel stairways, crawled over greasy places, looked into furnaces, and nonchalantly gossiped with rollers in the rod mills with ribbons of red hot rods whirling about him like writhing snakes of fire."

WOMEN FACE ROCKEFELLER.

Denver, Oct. 2.—John D. Rockefeller, jr., experienced new sensations when Mrs. Lee Champion and Mrs. Sarah L. Scanlan, president and secretary, respectively, of the Colorado Justice league, told him the story of Ludlow.

Standing squarely before the world's richest young man they charged his Colorado Fuel & Iron company with being responsible for this massacre of women and children. Plain words were used by the women, who told Rockefeller that if John R. Lawson is guilty of murder, then he (Rockefeller) is equally guilty of killing the women and children. Rockefeller showed much feeling in a denial of the charges. He said he knew nothing of the money used by the Colorado Fuel & Iron company. Mrs. Champion then offered to submit to him documentary evidence in proof of the charge that "murderers and thugs released from penitentiaries were given jobs by the Colorado Fuel & Iron company and that while drawing pay as employes of the Rockefeller company they were in the militia." Rockefeller refused to accept the documents.

WAR DEPLETES UNIONS.

Hamilton, Ontario, Oct. 2.—The effect of war is shown by this statement of the Labor News:

"If Canadian trade unionists continue to volunteer for overseas service in the numbers they have of late, whole local unions will be depleted. Some trades have suffered worse than others. Horseshoers particularly have gone in large numbers, as 'farriers' were in constant demand at the front to look after shoeing the thousands of horses used in battle.

"The Ottawa Horse Shoers' union, owing to so many of its members having enlisted, has temporarily ceased to exist."

RAINCOAT MAKERS GAIN.

Boston, Oct. 2.—Several hundred raincoat makers, affiliated to the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union, have secured wage increases that range in some instances as high as 33 per cent. Other gains include a 50-hour week and the Saturday half holiday. The employers' association agreed to these betterments after a short strike.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES.

Concord, N. H., Oct. 2.—Expenditures by the Boston and Maine railroad since January 1, 1912, to influence legislation in New Hampshire amounted to $341,267, according to testimony given at a recent investigation by the public service commission of such payments. Of this sum $114,511 was for advertising. Attorneys in the state received $226,132.

CORSET WORKERS GAIN.

New Haven, Conn., Oct. 2.—Corset workers employed by the P. Newman Corset company have reduced working hours from 55 to 48 and raised wages 12 1-2 per cent, that former rates may be maintained. Charges for material and fines for defective work are also abolished. These deductions meant a weekly loss of from $2 to $3 a week for each girl.

PRINTING PRESSMEN GAIN.

La Crosse, Wis., Oct. 2.—Newspaper publishers of this city have recognized the Printing Pressmen's union, increased wages $2 a week, and signed a three-year contract. Job shop proprietors reduced hours from nine to eight per day without a wage reduction. The union has been organized only a year.